

Docket No.: HO-P03178US0

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. Apparatus for the production of transversely ribbed tubes, comprising mold jaw halves (16) which are circulatingly moved in a condition of bearing against each other along two endless guide paths (14) by means of a respective associated drive device, wherein the two guide paths (14) have a common mold section (18), a respective return section (20) and two respective direction-changing sections (22, 24), wherein the respective direction-changing section (22, 24) has a direction-changing member (26, 28) provided with an arcuate guide edge, wherein the guide paths (14) have elongate wearing elements (30) which are exchangeably provided on a base arrangement (12) of the apparatus (10),
characterized in that the guide paths (14) along the common mold section (18) and along the return sections (20) have elongate wearing elements (30) comprising a low-wear plastic material.
2. Apparatus as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the elongate wearing elements (30) are resiliently provided on the base arrangement (12).
3. Apparatus as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the plastic material has oil inclusions.
4. Apparatus as set forth in one of claims 1 through 3 characterized in that the elongate wearing elements (30) are provided with two longitudinal slots (34, 36) which are provided in laterally mutually spaced parallel relationship and which are provided in coincident relationship with a coolant feed (42) and a coolant discharge (44) for the mold jaw halves (16).

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5. Apparatus as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the direction-changing members (26, 28) provided between the common mold section (18) and the two return sections (20) comprise a low-wear plastic material.
6. Apparatus as set forth in claim 5 characterized in that the plastic material has oil inclusions.
7. Apparatus as set forth in claim 5 or claim 6 characterized in that the direction-changing members (26, 28) are respectively connected to a compensation device (50) which compensates for a temperature- and/or speed-dependent tolerance play of the mold jaw halves (16) circulating along the respectively associated guide path (14).

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